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Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Somalia

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to the statement of the President of the Security Council of 31 October 2001 (S/PRST/2001/30), in which the Council requested me to submit reports on a quarterly basis on the situation in Somalia. The report covers developments since my report of 18 February 2005 (S/2005/89), and focuses on the issues and challenges confronting the Transitional Federal Government. It also provides an update on developments inside Somalia, the security situation and the humanitarian and development activities of United Nations programmes and agencies in the country.

II. Transitional Federal Government

2. During the period under review, two important issues have proven quite controversial within the Transitional Federal Government. The first is with regard to the Government's plan to relocate to Somalia. There is serious concern among Somalis and the international community that almost eight months after the conclusion of the Somali National Reconciliation Conference, the Somali transitional federal institutions are still in Nairobi rather than in Somalia.

3. The controversy has caused a rift between President Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed and his Prime Minister, Ali Mohammed Gedi, on the one hand, and the Speaker of Parliament, Sharif Hassan Sheikh Adan, some cabinet members and a large number of members of Parliament on the other. President Yusuf and his group argue that Mogadishu is not secure enough and that the Transitional Federal Government should relocate temporarily to Jawhar or Baidoa until the capital is made safe. The Speaker and those associated with him insist that the Government should relocate to Mogadishu.

4. The second controversial issue is the inclusion of troops from the frontline States (Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya), in a future African Union/Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) peace support mission in Somalia requested by President Yusuf. Once again, a large number of members of Parliament, cabinet ministers and faction and other leaders oppose the deployment of troops from those countries.

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5. The result is that the Government's intention to commence the relocation of the transitional federal institutions to Somalia as of mid-February (see S/2005/89, para. 8) has not been implemented. However, a number of fact-finding teams were dispatched by the Transitional Federal Government to several regions of Somalia as a prelude to the visit of President Yusuf and Prime Minister Gedi to the country from 24 February to 4 March. The Transitional Federal Government delegation visited Baidoa, Beletweine, Boosaaso, Garowe and Jawhar. Reports indicate that the delegation was welcomed by ordinary Somalis. However, the delegation did not visit Mogadishu.

6. On 24 March, 11 members of Parliament, mainly from the Hawiye clan, wrote to members of the international community expressing their disapproval of President Yusuf's relocation plan, and a number of members of Parliament left Nairobi for Mogadishu. Their stated intention was to prepare for the smooth relocation of the Transitional Federal Government to the capital. They met in Mogadishu with senior Hawiye politicians, including former President Abdikassim Salad Hassan, to work out the modalities of removing armed militias from Mogadishu. On 6 April, an additional 22 members of Parliament arrived in the capital with the intention of reviewing the preparations that their colleagues had undertaken. On 5 April, Muse Sudi Yalahow, the Transitional Federal Government Minister of Commerce and a prominent Mogadishu faction leader, held a press conference in Nairobi asserting that it was time for the Government to relocate to Mogadishu. An additional 30 members of Parliament, including Mohamed Kanyare Afrah, Muse Sudi Yalahow and Osman Ali Atto, all Ministers in the Transitional Federal Government, left Nairobi for Mogadishu soon thereafter. Mohamed Kanyare spoke to the press in Mogadishu and stated that the objective of those members of Parliament was to oversee the implementation of a "Mogadishu Security and Stabilization Plan" that had been announced earlier as the framework for the pacification of the capital. He asserted, however, that they remained part of the Transitional Federal Government. On 16 April, Deputy Prime Minister Mohamud Jama Sifir led another group of 8 members of Parliament back to Mogadishu from Nairobi. Reports indicate that there are over 100 members of Parliament currently in Mogadishu.

7. On 29 April, Prime Minister Gedi, accompanied by representatives of the African Union (AU), the League of Arab States (LAS), Algeria, Djibouti, Kenya and Yemen, arrived in Mogadishu. The officer-in-charge of the United Nations Political Office in Somalia (UNPOS) joined the mission on 1 May (see para. 26 below). The Prime Minister and his entourage were warmly received by the inhabitants of Mogadishu, who stressed the need for the Transitional Federal Government to return to Mogadishu as the capital of Somalia. At a meeting with members of Parliament in the capital, Prime Minister Gedi stated that reports that the Transitional Federal Government was planning to relocate elsewhere was misinformation. He underlined that the stabilization of Mogadishu was the responsibility of the Executive and expressed his readiness to take over the process to re-establish security there.

8. A bomb exploded on 3 May while Prime Minister Gedi was addressing a large crowd in the Mogadishu Stadium. The Prime Minister was not injured, but many people were reported killed and wounded. Pending the conclusion of investigations, he announced that the blast had most likely been accidental and caused by a hand grenade. Others in Mogadishu claimed that the explosion was deliberate and was

meant to disrupt the Prime Minister's campaign for support in Mogadishu. On 7 May, Prime Minister Gedi returned to Nairobi.

9. In late February, several Somali political figures voiced their opposition to the deployment in Somalia of troops from the frontline States in response to the communiqué issued by IGAD on 31 January 2005 at the AU Summit in Abuja (ibid., para. 19). On 26 February, 41 of the 61 Hawiye members of Parliament and Ministers (including major faction leaders) issued a press statement in Nairobi in which they welcomed AU troops, but categorically opposed the deployment of troops from the frontline States. They also insisted that the Transitional Federal Parliament endorse the composition and mandate of the troops to be deployed. The Speaker subsequently added his voice to the group opposed to the desire of President Yusuf and Prime Minister Gedi to receive troops from the frontline States. He claimed that his position was based on his findings in Mogadishu during his visit there in February (ibid., para. 9). Demonstrations both in support of and in opposition to the deployment of such troops were held in the capital during the first week of March.

10. The issue was debated in Parliament on 17 March in preparation for the meeting of the IGAD Council of Ministers (see para. 18 below) to consider the issue of the deployment of a peace support mission in Somalia. However, the debate in Parliament degenerated into a rowdy session in which several members of Parliament were wounded and a Minister was detained by the Kenyan police. The Speaker issued a statement to the effect that the majority of members of Parliament had voted by a show of hands, after the destruction of the polling box, in favour of the deployment to Somalia of troops from other African countries and States members of the League of Arab States, but not troops from States bordering Somalia. President Yusuf responded by issuing a Presidential decree rejecting the Speaker's statement.

11. In a letter to Prime Minister Gedi and the Speaker dated 18 April, President Yusuf stressed the need for the Cabinet and the Parliament to adopt a comprehensive bill on security and the relocation of the Transitional Federal Government to Somalia. He stated that the bill should include: the IGAD Foreign Ministers' decision of 18 March (see para. 18 below); the Government's relocation to Baidoa and Jawhar with a security and political office in Mogadishu; a stabilization plan for Mogadishu; the disarmament and encampment of all militias throughout the country within three months; a new written commitment by all Transitional Federal Government members, members of Parliament and others to a ceasefire and disarmament; and an international verification and monitoring mechanism led by IGAD, AU, LAS and an "international core group".

12. Following efforts by the international community to reconcile the opposing views within the Transitional Federal Government, the Speaker issued a statement welcoming further talks. The dissident Ministers and members of Parliament in Mogadishu also expressed their readiness to resolve the dispute through the mediation efforts of the international community.

13. Following a Cabinet meeting on 9 May, Prime Minister Gedi submitted two motions to the Speaker for approval by the Parliament. The first was on the deployment of an IGAD peace support mission in Somalia on the basis of the IGAD Foreign Minister's communiqué of 18 March. The second was on the decision of the Cabinet to relocate to Baidoa and Jawhar, with an office in Mogadishu, pending the

stabilization of the capital. The intention was to obtain the approval of Parliament prior to the African Union Peace and Security Council meeting on Somalia scheduled for 12 May in Addis Ababa.

14. The Speaker argued that he needed more time so that the members of Parliament in Mogadishu could return to Nairobi to study the two motions. He proposed to hold a session on 17 May. President Yusuf announced that he would call an emergency session of Parliament for 11 May. The Speaker deemed the session illegal and did not preside over its deliberations.

15. The First Deputy Speaker, declaring that there was a quorum (152 members in attendance out of 275), presided over the session to consider the two motions. He announced that he had counted 145 votes in favour of the first motion on the deployment of an IGAD peace support mission. A total of 141 members are reported to have voted in favour of the second motion on the relocation of the Transitional Federal Government to Baidoa and Jawhar with an office in Mogadishu. The Speaker declared the decisions null and void. On 15 May, the Speaker, accompanied by 28 other members of Parliament, left Nairobi for Mogadishu, where he has since been involved in assisting in the efforts to demobilize and disarm militias in the capital.

16. During the period under review, President Yusuf and Prime Minister Gedi held talks with a number of regional leaders and Government officials on the issue of the Transitional Federal Government's relocation plans and related questions. On 8 March, President Yusuf met with the President of Kenya, Mwai Kibaki, in Nairobi to discuss the Government's relocation plan. Both leaders reiterated the need for the Transitional Federal Government to relocate back to Somalia without delay. Prime Minister Gedi briefed President Ismail Omar Guelleh of Djibouti on 7 March in Djibouti. He then proceeded to Addis Ababa and met with Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia, President Mwai Kibaki of Kenya and the Prime Minister of Djibouti. He stressed the need for financial support from the international community and peace support troops to assist the relocation of the Transitional Federal Government to Somalia.

17. President Yusuf met with President Hosni Mubarak and other Egyptian officials, as well as with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, Amre Moussa, in Cairo in mid-March. He called on LAS to play a major role in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Somalia. He also attended the LAS summit in Algiers and held talks with Libyan officials later in April.

III. Activities of the United Nations and the international community

18. The IGAD Council of Ministers on Somalia met in Nairobi on 17 and 18 March. In a communiqué, the Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to execute the decision of the IGAD summit of 31 January 2005 held in Abuja (see S/2005/89, para. 19) to deploy an IGAD peace support mission to Somalia. They stated that the mission would be deployed in a phased manner. During phase I, troops from the Sudan and Uganda would provide security and support to the Transitional Federal Government to ensure its relocation to Somalia. The remaining IGAD countries would provide the necessary logistics, equipment and training to the Somali army

and police. During phase II, troop deployment would be undertaken by the remaining IGAD countries pending the deployment of AU troops. The Ministers welcomed the decision of the LAS Ministers for Foreign Affairs to participate in the peace support mission in Somalia and to assist IGAD and AU in that regard.

19. Earlier, an AU-IGAD fact-finding mission visited Somalia from 14 to 26 February. The mission held consultations with different segments of the population in many parts of the country, including Mogadishu, on the possible deployment of a peace support mission. The mission is reported to have elicited mixed reactions. On the whole, most Somalis supported the deployment of foreign troops, but not those from neighbouring countries. On 17 February, a bomb exploded in southern Mogadishu close to where the fact-finding mission had been expected to pass. Reports indicated that five Somali civilians were killed and others injured, but that none of the members of the AU-IGAD mission had been affected. The mission continued with its schedule nonetheless.

20. The mission's report was considered by the African Union Peace and Security Council at its meeting on 12 May 2005 in Addis Ababa, in which Prime Minister Gedi participated. In the communiqué that was adopted (see S/2005/315, annex), the African Union Peace and Security Council authorized the deployment of phase I of the IGAD Peace Support Mission in Somalia (IGASOM), as agreed upon by the IGAD Council of Ministers at its meeting on 18 March. IGASOM is, inter alia, to facilitate the relocation of the Transitional Federal Government and provide protection as appropriate; to assist the Transitional Federal Government and the Somali parties in security sector reform and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration efforts; and to facilitate humanitarian operations within its capabilities. The African Union Peace and Security Council also requested the Security Council to authorize an exemption of the arms embargo under Security Council resolution 733 (1992) for the deployment of IGASOM.

21. In a letter dated 13 May, the Chairman of the AU Commission, Alpha Oumar Konaré, informed me of the Peace and Security Council decision. As requested, on 26 May I forwarded his letter to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia. Chairman Konaré also stated that the Peace and Security Council had underlined the need for IGAD, the Transitional Federal Government and the Somali parties to engage in a dialogue in order to reach the broadest possible consensus on all the crucial issues facing the reconciliation process in Somalia.

22. On 7 April, the European Union issued a statement on Somalia (see S/2005/248, annex) that urged the Somali parties to refrain from further hostilities and advocated dialogue among the parties with a view to having the Council of Ministers and the Parliament reach agreement on a new comprehensive proposal on relocation and security. The European Union insisted that inclusiveness and reconciliation be restored, or else the outcome of the IGAD-led conference could be derailed, which could shake the confidence of the international community in the nascent Somali transitional institutions.

23. The United States Embassy in Nairobi issued two statements in March expressing concern with regard to the deployment of troops from the frontline States in a peace support mission in Somalia. In a joint statement issued on 12 May 2005 (see S/2005/326, annex), the United States of America and the European Union stressed the urgent need for a viable agreement on relocation and security to be

endorsed by the Somali transitional federal institutions. The statement welcomed the Somali efforts on relocation, including the efforts of the Somali parties to facilitate demilitarization in Mogadishu, which should be incorporated into a national plan as soon as possible.

24. The Secretary of State for International Development Cooperation of Sweden, Annika Soder, visited Nairobi in mid-April with a delegation of senior officials. She held consultations with donors on issues related to the coordination of international support for the Transitional Federal Government as a follow-up to the Stockholm meeting of October 2004 (see S/2005/89, para. 11). She also held talks with Somali leaders, including the President, the Prime Minister and the Speaker, on issues related to the Transitional Federal Government's relocation plan.

25. The Director of Africa I Division of the United Nations Department of Political Affairs visited Nairobi in late April and held discussions with several stakeholders on Somalia, including the President, the Prime Minister and the Speaker. He stressed the need to resolve the current differences within the Transitional Federal Government. Citing that it would not be possible to ensure security for the Transitional Federal Government by external troops alone, he suggested the need for a comprehensive ceasefire agreement that could be accompanied by the formation of a core Somali security force, which could initially be recruited on the basis of the "4.5 formula" for clan representation and quickly trained. The transitional federal institutions could then begin a gradual move from Nairobi to Mogadishu, while President Yusuf could travel to different locations in Somalia. All concerned welcomed this proposal as a basis for talks until the Somali security unit and foreign troops were in place in Mogadishu to ensure security.

26. The officer-in-charge of UNPOS led a delegation to Mogadishu on 1 and 2 May to encourage dialogue between the Transitional Federal Government members in Mogadishu and those in Nairobi. He was accompanied by the Assistant Minister for Regional Cooperation and East African Affairs of Kenya. The delegation met with Prime Minister Gedi and the Ministers and members of Parliament in Mogadishu. It also visited several facilities, many of which were in good condition and could serve as venues for the relocation of the transitional federal institutions. In addition, the delegation was briefed on efforts that were under way to disarm, demobilize and reintegrate the militias in Mogadishu.

27. My new Special Representative for Somalia, François Lonseny Fall, arrived in Nairobi on 27 May and immediately held consultations with President Yusuf and Prime Minister Gedi, as well as with the international community in Nairobi. He is also in contact with the Speaker, who remains in Mogadishu. He will continue to assist the Somalis to reach agreement on the process of relocation.

28. In coordination with the Transitional Federal Government, UNPOS has identified a number of project proposals for several peacebuilding activities under the United Nations Trust Fund for Peacebuilding in Somalia. The main objective of the projects is to support the establishment and functioning of the nascent transitional institutions and the facilitation of dialogue for reconciliation.

29. On 9 February, the Transitional Federal Government and the United Nations, representing the international community, signed the Declaration of Principles and Structured Coordination Modalities documents of the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Committee, which serves as the highest level of information-sharing and

policy discussion in the partnership between the international community and the Government. It held four meetings between 18 February and 22 April. However, a high-level Coordination and Monitoring Committee meeting that had been planned for 21 April was postponed indefinitely at the request of the Transitional Federal Government.

IV. Developments inside Somalia

30. During their visit to the Mudug region in February, President Yusuf and Prime Minister Gedi negotiated a ceasefire agreement between the Sa'ad and Suleiman sub-clans of the Habr Gedir, in an attempt to end the armed conflict that had been going on for the past three months. However, renewed fighting between the two sides, on 4 and 5 March resulted in some 16 people being killed.

31. On 24 March, a large number of people in Hodur, the capital of the Bakool region, and those in the Yaqshid District in Mogadishu held rallies to express support for the President's intention to relocate to Baidoa and Jawhar until the capital was secure. However, an attempt to hold a similar rally in Baidoa led to fighting from 25 to 27 March during which 14 people were reportedly killed. The clashes occurred between militias allied to Mohamed Ibrahim Habsade, assisted by the militias of Sheikh Yusuf Indhadde from the Lower Shabelle region and those of his erstwhile allies, Colonel Hassan Muhammed Nur "Shatigudud", Sheikh Aden Madobe and Abdallah Derow Issaq (all Transitional Federal Government Ministers). The latter group supports President Yusuf's relocation plan, while the former is opposed to his relocating to Baidoa. The two groups clashed again on 30 May over control of the city.

32. On 2 April, an absolute majority in "Somaliland's" House of Representatives endorsed an election bill accepting the amendments suggested by "President" Dahir Riayle Kahin. Reports indicate that 61 members of those present in the House voted in favour, while 4 abstained. Earlier, the House had demanded a national census and the demarcation of regional borders (ibid., para. 22). However, "President" Kahin rejected the demands of the House of Representatives and referred the issue to the "Supreme Court", which supported his position. Elections for the House of Representatives are scheduled to be held in September 2005.

33. On 6 April, the Chairman of the Kulmiye Political Party in "Somaliland", Ahmed Mouhammed "Silanyo", held a press conference in Hargeysa accusing the authorities of violating the constitution of "Somaliland" and harassing his supporters.

34. An AU delegation led by Deputy Chairman Mazimhaka visited "Somaliland" from 1 to 4 May. The delegation was met by public demonstrations criticizing the AU and the international community for failing to recognize the progress achieved in "Somaliland". The delegation was briefed by the authorities on "Somaliland's" determination to protect its sovereignty. Mr. Mazimhaka stated that recognition of "Somaliland" was within the purview of AU member States. The former President of Zambia, Kenneth Kaunda, visited "Somaliland" from 19 to 21 May at the invitation of the authorities. He stated that he would share his findings with AU and other leaders in Africa. Earlier, an official of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had visited Hargeysa on 27 April to hold discussions on the parliamentary elections.

Security

35. The situation in the North has been generally quiet. There have been no further attacks on aid workers in "Somaliland" and the United Nations security phase in Hargeysa was reduced to phase III in April. The capacity of the authorities to protect aid workers and to police the region has been enhanced by an initiative of the United Nations Development Programme to support the police. There have been no significant incidents between "Somaliland" and "Puntland" in the disputed regions of Sool and Sanaag, and some reports suggest a slight reduction of force levels, although there appears to be no progress towards a political solution.

36. Conflict continues in several parts of southern Somalia, and insecurity remains a significant problem for aid agencies in much of the country. Reliable reports suggest that although there have been local shortages of weapons and ammunition, the United Nations arms embargo continues to be violated and that such supplies are frequently imported into the country.

37. Inter-clan conflict, motivated by competition for control of resources and the cycle of revenge killings, remains a significant problem. Areas most seriously affected by clan disputes include: South Mudug and North Galguduud and the town of Hobyo, where the Saad and Suleiman sub-clans of the Habr Gedir have been engaged in a long-running dispute over the control of grazing; Bay and Bakool, where the clans of the Rahanwein have fought over the control of Baidoa; the Gedo region, where there has been continued low-level confrontation among the Marehan; and between the Marehan and Garre in El Wak on the border with Kenya.

38. In March and May, the confrontation over control of Baidoa (see para. 31 above) widened when militias from opposing elements of the Hawiye intervened. Tensions were reduced following the intervention of traditional leaders and, for the moment, the dispute remains contained within the Rahanwein.

39. Violence continues to affect Mogadishu. In spite of the rapprochement between many of the faction leaders in the city, high levels of violent crime and occasional inter-clan incidents mean that the city remains at United Nations security phase V. Victims have included a journalist of the British Broadcasting Corporation who was killed by gunmen on 10 February and a Somali working for an international non-governmental organization who was killed on 18 April. It is not clear who is responsible for those attacks, but reports indicate that extremist groups may be involved. However, the efforts to encamp militia and their "technicals" that began in mid-May and the removal of militia checkpoints in the first week of June could improve security in Mogadishu.

40. Aid operations have been seriously affected by the high levels of insecurity, especially in the South. The proliferation in southern Somalia of checkpoints manned by uncontrolled militia restricts the movement of staff and supplies. In contrast, the administrations in both "Somaliland" and "Puntland" are able to control the activities of such individuals and aid is being delivered over a wide area.

V. Humanitarian situation

41. Humanitarian access has been largely satisfactory in north-western and north-eastern Somalia in spite of periodic tensions in the contested regions of Sool and Sanaag. However, in central and southern Somalia, the operating environment continues to be insecure, which severely limits the scope and effectiveness of the international humanitarian response. In 2005, despite increased humanitarian needs, operations were curtailed in Bay, Bakool, Gedo, Lower Juba, Hiran, Galgaduud, Benadir and Middle Shabelle as a consequence of local conflict, interference in agency operations by local authorities or attacks on aid agency staff.

42. In mid-April, cross-border intra-clan fighting in the Gedo region resulted in the displacement of an estimated 15,000 people. Gedo is beset with the highest malnutrition rates in Somalia (up to 23 per cent), based in part on chronic food insecurity. Continued tensions impede humanitarian access. However, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and local authorities are closely monitoring the situation and are ready to respond once access is secured.

43. Somalia remains highly vulnerable to natural disasters, particularly drought and floods, as well as seasonal cyclones and coastal storms. In February, an inter-agency assessment mission reported that a total of 44,000 people had been affected by the unprecedented Indian Ocean tsunami along the northern and eastern coastlines of Somalia. The mission ascertained that critical humanitarian needs, such as food, shelter, water, health and non-food items, had been largely met through the quick humanitarian response provided by United Nations agencies, local communities and non-governmental organizations. The generous and timely contributions of donors substantially facilitated the response. Nevertheless, continued relief and livelihood assistance is required. The need for equitable resource allocation to other vulnerable communities, such as destitute pastoralists and internally displaced persons, must also be borne in mind. United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations have already embarked on recovery programmes.

44. The effects of several years of drought continue to be felt in Somalia. An estimated 500,000 people remain in a state of humanitarian emergency or livelihood crisis in drought-affected areas. Despite the good *deyr* rains in 2004/05, which improved water availability and pasture, recovery is slow as pastoralists have been unable to fully benefit from the better conditions due to significantly reduced herd sizes, excessive debt levels and widespread destitution. Recovery is also hampered by recurrent instability, which limits access to markets, grazing and other resources.

45. In the Juba and Shabelle areas, the *deyr* 2004/05 cereal production fell to its lowest post-war level due to inundation and localized floods caused by heavy rains. Flooding has continued in the *gu* rainy season in the Hiran and Middle Shabelle regions, where the situation remains precarious, with several thousand households now forced to vacate their riverine villages. In mid-April, heavy rain and floods hit Hargeysa in "Somaliland", causing widespread damage to infrastructure. The United Nations has assisted over 6,000 people affected by flooding in "Somaliland" and southern Somalia through the provision of relief supplies, access to safe water and preventative measures against outbreaks of cholera and malaria.

46. United Nations agencies, in partnership with national and international non-governmental organizations, have developed strategic plans for effective assistance

to the estimated 400,000 internally displaced persons scattered over 32 sites in Somalia. In cooperation with non-governmental organization partners and local authorities, the United Nations has supported efforts to accelerate assistance for internally displaced persons and returnee populations in "Somaliland" and "Puntland." However, the protective environment for most internally displaced persons in Somalia, particularly the 250,000 residing in Mogadishu, remains weak. The highly volatile environment continues to restrict access to those communities, which remain vulnerable to harassment, exploitation and extortion.

47. In 2005, a total of 5,856 Somali refugees were repatriated to Somalia from Ethiopia and Djibouti. The majority of the returnees came to "Somaliland", while others were airlifted from Djibouti to "Puntland". Reintegration projects are designed to facilitate the return of Somali refugees from asylum countries, improve infrastructure and create livelihoods in the receiving communities.

VI. Operational activities to promote peace

Governance

48. The United Nations has been working closely with the Transitional Federal Parliament. It has established the Somalia Emergency Budgetary Support Project to serve as a coordinated funding mechanism providing budgetary support for the nascent Somali institutions, including immediate interventions to support and stabilize the Transitional Federal Government inside Somalia.

49. To date, the Somalia Emergency Budgetary Support Project has secured more than $6 million and has established a joint Transitional Federal Government/donor-led steering committee to manage the coordinated use of funds. Technical working groups have been established for: payroll systems; the Transitional Federal Government relocation plan; a future office of a comptroller general and revenue generation; and capacity for the Government's Liaison Office in Nairobi. A logistical support initiative is being worked on for the relocation of the registered Somali delegates and Transitional Federal Government officials, numbering more than 700, to various locations inside Somalia. Technical expertise is in place to set up a payroll system and civil service and human resources management capacities.

50. The New Beginnings — Somalia Civil Service project under the auspices of the United Nations began in May. The objective is to initiate discussion within the Transitional Federal Government on key issues relating to the civil service and to coordinate civil service and human resources planning and management. The project is intended to address the urgent need for external support to the Government to enable it to start implementing practices of effective and responsive governance.

51. With increased funding from donors in 2005, the Financial Services Development Project under the auspices of the United Nations has undertaken several initiatives with the Somali Financial Services Association and the formal banking sector. The project has also initiated the process for establishing a Somali central bank, as well as the development of a basic framework to make it operational.

52. The United Nations, with donor support, has started the Qualified Expatriate Somali Technical Support project, which seeks to facilitate the transfer of diaspora expertise to Somalia. Five educational, four agricultural and one health project have

been ongoing since January 2005. The projects include support for the Ministry of Livestock in "Somaliland", increasing the capacity of primary school staff in Bulo Burte and Belet Weyne and improving the capacity and service delivery of nurses and midwives in Mogadishu.

53. In "Somaliland", the United Nations has organized the "Somaliland" Urban Forum in Hargeysa to assist the region's seven municipalities in sharing information and planning initiatives for urban management and in the delivery of social services. Efforts are under way to establish a civil service institute in "Somaliland" to train and upgrade the professional skills of managers and administrative and clerical staff of the "Somaliland" administration.

54. The United Nations is continuing to support the "Somaliland" Law Review Commission. Members of the Commission recently completed the last of a two-phase training course on basic principles of statutory analysis. The Commission was also given technical assistance to formulate a statute review protocol to reconcile reviewed statutes with internationally recognized standards of human rights. The Commission is presently reviewing the "Somaliland" Penal Code.

55. The United Nations also continues to support the legal clinic at the University of Hargeysa, which provides free legal representation to economically disadvantaged individuals and groups. A training programme for the justice sector of Middle Shabelle and a rehabilitation project of the Berbera Prison in "Somaliland" are also being implemented.

56. A national conference was held in Hargeysa on 10 May to finalize the draft laws for the establishment of a national human rights commission, which was one of the main recommendations of the United Nations Independent Expert on Human Rights for Somalia.

57. The United Nations has undertaken the construction of the Armo police academy in "Puntland", which will have the capacity to train 300 cadets, including 60 women. In addition, the rule of law programme has rehabilitated and equipped two police stations in "Somaliland" (in Berbera and Dhoqoshey). In "Somaliland", training has also been conducted for the Internal Control Unit, the Special Protection Unit and the Criminal Investigations Department. The Special Protection Unit continues to provide protection to staff and the premises of humanitarian and development organizations in "Somaliland."

Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration

58. During the reporting period, the United Nations has developed policy and operational plans for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration countrywide, including the provision of technical assistance through the Somalia Strategic Demilitarization Planning Unit, which worked closely with the Transitional Federal Government, the donor community and the African Union. The Unit also provided technical assistance and planning support for security sector transformation and the establishment of a police force.

59. In preparing for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, security sector reform has been specifically supported by the United Nations in strong partnership with the "Puntland" and "Somaliland" authorities. The United Nations is in the process of registering and surveying over 15,000 security forces and militia in both locations. The demobilization and reintegration of several thousand forces in

"Somaliland" and "Puntland" is under way, while pilot projects and planning will continue to be undertaken in Central/South Somalia pending large-scale demobilization in partnership with the Transitional Federal Government. Apart from economic reintegration, the United Nations also provides strong psychosocial assistance to address widespread drug addiction, trauma and mental illness among the ex-combatants entering the programme.

60. Small arms and light weapons control strategies, including the development of a legal framework, strengthened police controls and advocacy on "gun safety", have been undertaken in "Somaliland", and efforts now focus on assisting "Puntland" and the central/southern regions to curtail the proliferation of weapons in the country.

Livelihood

61. To support the compilation of district-level poverty profiles and poverty mapping, the United Nations continued its settlement-level survey and completed the field survey in three regions in "Puntland". The survey collected geographical coordinates for health, education and other basic services to map facilities and identify development gaps in the provision of essential services. The United Nations is also supporting two vocational training centres in the port cities of Berbera and Boosaaso, which are in the process of being restructured and managed locally. The United Nations is also taking part in long-term infrastructure rehabilitation in locations on the coast through the construction of local markets, women's centres and support to several income-generation projects for women.

62. Substantial progress was made to rehabilitate the Duduble ("Chinese") Canal in Middle Shabelle to reduce the intensity of floods and promote irrigation. The rehabilitation project is estimated to benefit over 50,000 people. The project was implemented by the regional administration and local communities with technical support from United Nations agencies. The United Nations contribution was 35 per cent of the estimated cost of $1 million, and the balance was mobilized by the community and the local administration. The canal was inaugurated by Prime Minister Gedi on 7 June.

63. Illegal fishing and processing by foreign trawlers and other vessels is becoming a matter of increasing concern to Somali leaders and coastal communities. The pillage of Somali Indian Ocean and Red Sea waters by literally hundreds of such vessels from a variety of nationalities could cause overfishing and depletion of fish stocks. Some of these intruding vessels have attacked local Somali fishermen and destroyed their boats and equipment. Illegal fishing by foreign interests represents a loss of much-needed revenue for the new Transitional Federal Government and the regional authorities in "Puntland" and "Somaliland".

Health

64. Efforts to achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals for immunization in Somalia are ongoing through measles catch-up campaigns and the strengthening of routine immunization. Activities have focused on malaria, child immunization, emergency preparedness and response to acute nutritional emergencies. Surveys on malaria, including a knowledge, attitudes, behaviour and practices survey, have been completed. Distribution of insecticide-treated nets is ongoing, with the focus on hyperendemic areas. Funding has also been secured to

conduct a maternal and neonatal tetanus immunization campaign for women of childbearing age in "Puntland" and parts of southern Somalia.

65. The first year workplan for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was finalized. The United Nations has facilitated coordination meetings of various local Somali HIV/AIDS organizations with a view to strengthening their capacity and mainstreaming their practices.

66. The United Nations Theme Group on HIV/AIDS is currently supporting a health systems assessment for comprehensive HIV/AIDS service delivery, as well as the drafting of national clinical HIV/AIDS management guidelines. This activity supports the development of common modalities to implement priority HIV/AIDS interventions identified by a joint strategic framework.

Youth

67. The United Nations youth development and participation project concluded a review of youth mentoring activities in 2004 and provided on-site technical support to youth groups in Somalia. The review highlighted the need to have a set of trained youth capable of delivering leadership and organizational development and mentoring support to youth groups. A total of 28 trained youth mentors will deliver on-site technical support to youth groups during 2005. As part of the newly initiated "Somaliland" urban development programme, the United Nations will be involved in training youth groups in good governance with the objective of enhancing their participation in district-based local governance processes.

Water and environmental sanitation

68. The United Nations Water and Environmental Sanitation project has supported the tsunami-affected population of "Puntland" and provided emergency water services. The construction of new water supplies to replace those on the coastal strip that were contaminated has also been completed. Plans for the construction of a more permanent water supply to the town of Hafun have been put in place.

69. Other water and environmental sanitation support activities included the drilling of new boreholes in drought-affected areas of Somalia; the construction of an urban water system in Gabilay, in "Somaliland"; and the chlorinating of water supplies in Mogadishu to prevent cholera. The United Nations is also supporting a study to find a new water source for the city of Hargeysa, which will enable some 350,000 people to access adequate water in the city.

Child protection

70. The United Nations has conducted a lessons-learned review of the work undertaken by child protection advocates in strengthening the capacities of communities to respond to and prevent protection violations. The United Nations also collaborated on a project aimed at the rehabilitation and reintegration of former child soldiers in Kismaayo, Merca and Mogadishu, which has benefited 420 children. The United Nations is supporting a community-based psychosocial care and support strategy for vulnerable children and their families and is helping to establish a cadre of paraprofessional psychosocial workers.

71. Assistance has included the provision of shelter supplies and the expansion of community-based health and nutrition services. The United Nations is targeting

rural and marginalized communities with child survival interventions, including a measles/vitamin A campaign and the expansion of more sustained health and education services.

VII. Observations

72. Somalia's neighbours, IGAD, the African Union and the League of Arab States have continued to show keen interest in helping Somalis to establish a functional Government. The European Union and donor countries have committed significant financial resources and political support for the formation of the Transitional Federal Government and its institutions.

73. I express my appreciation for their efforts and continue to urge them to maintain their determination to help Somalia. My new Special Representative and all United Nations agencies and programmes stand ready to support the efforts of the Transitional Federal Government and all other Somali leaders to restore peace, reconciliation and stability in the country. Moreover, the United Nations has made preparations to coordinate and complement the support of the international community for Somalia.

74. It is of utmost importance that the Transitional Federal Government and the transitional federal institutions relocate to Somalia so as to ensure continued credibility with the people of Somalia and the international community. There are serious challenges linked to the relocation, including security, the choice of capital city and lack of infrastructure and resources. However, it is clear that the Government's relocation plan has become fraught with controversy and opposition, which could assume further divisions along clan and regional lines.

75. There is an urgent need for Somali leaders to enter into a serious dialogue in the search for a consensus on the important issues regarding relocation. I welcome the efforts of the leaders in Mogadishu to restore stability in the capital. I urge the international community to help in providing the necessary technical and material support that would improve the quality of those efforts. However, their efforts must become national in order to give confidence to all Somalis. I reiterate my appeal to the Transitional Federal Government and Parliament, as a matter of priority, to seek an agreement from all faction and militia leaders to cease hostilities and enter into immediate negotiations for a comprehensive ceasefire agreement. The United Nations is ready to support negotiations for such an agreement, in collaboration with other partners.

76. With the support for the expansion of UNPOS by the necessary organs of the United Nations, I look forward to a further energized role of the United Nations in the stabilization of Somalia. The Coordination and Monitoring Committee can be a useful mechanism to oversee and guide assistance to Somalia. However, there is need to complete the process of making it structurally stronger in order to allow for quick responses to problems. The urgent need for the formation of a secretariat cannot be overemphasized. It is my sincere hope that donor countries, as well as regional countries and organizations, will assist and support my new Special Representative, who is pursuing his duties with enthusiasm.

77. As mentioned in paragraph 21 above, the Chairman of the AU Commission has informed me that planning is under way for a peace support mission for Somalia by

IGAD and the African Union. As part of the expansion of UNPOS, a military adviser is expected to join the Office's staff. One of his tasks will be to liaise with military counterparts in the African Union, IGAD and other relevant institutions. The United Nations stands ready to assist with technical support and advice within its capacity.

78. I once again underline the importance that training programmes envisaged for foreign troops and Somali security forces include a humanitarian and human rights component. In the area of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, the United Nations will continue to support the efforts and build on the experiences of United Nations agencies already involved in such programmes.

79. The fact that the deployment of any foreign military force in Somalia will require an exemption from the Security Council arms embargo on Somalia poses a challenge for the international community at large and the United Nations in particular. The recent report of the Monitoring Group on Somalia (see S/2005/153, enclosure) made it clear that violations continue to occur and weapons and explosives continue to flow into the country. In its resolution 1587 (2005), the Security Council mandated the Monitoring Group to continue monitoring the proper implementation of the arms embargo. The enforcement of the arms embargo, with improved monitoring capacity and the establishment of enforcement measures, would considerably enhance security in Somalia.

80. I commend the efforts of United Nations programmes and agencies and their partners who continue to provide humanitarian assistance and undertake operational activities to promote peace and development in Somalia in the face of exceedingly difficult and dangerous conditions. Their efforts and those of their partners in Somalia must be supported with the requisite resources.